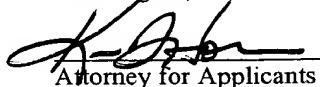


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K. Johnson  
Attorney for Applicants

DECEMBER 29, 2000  
Date

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

NEREIDA MARIA MENENDEZ et al.

Serial No. 09/698,502

Filed: October 27, 2000

METHOD FOR COMPLETING  
AND STORING AN ELECTRONIC  
RENTAL AGREEMENT

Group Art Unit: Not yet Assigned

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

Attorney Docket No. 285277-00018

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
December 28, 2000

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit this Statement for consideration during prosecution of the subject Application.

The examiner is referred to the Related Applications and Background Information as set forth on page 1 through page 3, line 2, of the present Application, as filed. No new information is submitted for consideration in connection with this Statement.

This Statement is filed solely for the purpose of complying with the pertinent rules of the Office and is not intended to be a substitute for an independent evaluation by the examiner of the art cited or an independent search by the examiner, and no representation of any nature is made or intended by the filing of this Statement.

In addition to the foregoing information, Applicants and/or their attorneys may have been exposed to or considered additional art relating to the general class of the subject matter of the invention. However, if in fact such exposure or consideration has occurred, to the best of their recall or judgment, none of such art is prior art which is more relevant than the art cited.

Respectfully submitted,



Kirk D. Houser  
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